

**Leadership Team, Mount Comfort Church
February 8, 2022**

Champions of Who We Were | Representatives of Who We Are | Leaders of Who We Are Becoming

Present, Leadership Team Members: Sandy Abel, Ron Arthur, Mary Ann Crisman, Sandi Hudson, Megan Jones, Kathy Lee, Reverend Ethan Maple, Chris Sexton, Christine Sturgis, Tim Waymire, Kristy Willhelm, Jim Winter.

Also Present: Jeff Janiszewski, Shawn Matney. **Absent:** John Bundy, Deric Roberts

The meeting of the Mount Comfort Church (MCC) Leadership Team was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the church's Mount Comfort Campus.

LOVE

Pastor Ethan shared the scripture, Proverbs 3:5-6, and discussed it with the Leadership Team.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take." Rev. Ethan Maple then opened the meeting with prayer.

LEARN

Pastor Ethan led discussion of the article he asked team members to read: "How Code-Switching Might Explain Why People Aren't Coming Back to Church" by Jeremy Hall.

LEAD

Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church, Inc. – The meeting of the Leadership Team was suspended at 7:27 p.m. for the purpose of convening the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of Mt. Comfort United Methodist Church, Inc.

The business meeting of the Leadership Team resumed at 7:32 p.m.

Affirm email Approvals – A matching gift of \$50,000 payable toward disaffiliation fees, if Mt. Comfort Church so determines, was approved via email vote and was affirmed by the Leadership Team at this meeting. The Missions Team requested approval of donations to Love, INC -- \$100 per month and a one-time donation of \$500 for a defined project. The Leadership Team approved the request via email vote in January and affirmed the vote at this meeting.

By the Numbers

Financials – Church Income/Expenses for January: \$39,798.51/\$37,875.87 with net income \$1,922.64.

Joyful Days Preschool and Childcare Income/Expenses for January: \$21,714/\$24,097.92, with net income (\$2,383.92). It was noted that COVID shutdowns negatively impacted the balance sheet.

General Fund Balance = \$52,071.66. Joyful Days Balance = \$36,233.14

Restricted Accounts = Discipleship \$9,880.40, Missions \$20,999.66, Facility \$47,233.30, Rainy Day \$64,817.98; Joyful Days = \$109,969.71; Legacy Gift Balance = \$171,551.82.

Attendance, December

Philly/MtC = January 2 - 28/86 | January 9 - 67/67 | January 16 – 43/61; January 23 – 38/68; January 30 – 49/73. Average: Philly Campus = 45 | Mt. Comfort Campus = 71 | Combined Average = 116.

Discussion Items

Discerning Disaffiliation – The Leadership Team members gave feedback regarding the Town Hall meeting held January 6. One question was when to make financial donations, and the consensus was to wait until after a disaffiliation vote to begin a pledge drive. The response to the Town Hall meeting was positive; Pastor Ethan did

an excellent job of explaining things. Q - Was the legacy money being targeted for disaffiliation fees designated for anything specific? A - No.

Next steps include verification of the membership roster, which is due to the conference February 28. Two membership classes are set, and new members will be affirmed February 20.

Small group meetings are set. If disaffiliation is approved, MCC must hire an attorney, and Pastor Ethan received a recommendation for Audra Snyder, at an estimated cost of \$1,500 - \$2,500. Ron Arthur moved to hire Audra Snyder as legal counsel for disaffiliation; Jim Winter seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

New Treasurer– Sandy Abel moved, and Tim Waymire seconded, that Beth Arthur be named treasurer of Mt. Comfort Church. The motion carried unanimously.

Joyful Days Grant Expenditures and Updates – Christine Sturgis reported the second grant payment has been received. Plans for grant expenditures include a toddler playground, technology upgrades, classroom updates, and equipment.

Missions – Pastor Ethan reported that the Missions team recommends a \$250 donation to C.O.M.E. (food pantry in Cumberland) to coordinate with a matching donation from Meijer. After the Love, INC presentation in worship service, some people in the congregation expressed an interest in helping organize the home linens donations. Sandy Abel moved, and Chris Sexton seconded that we designate \$1,500 of Missions funds for the Love, INC of Greater Hancock County linens project. The motion carried unanimously.

The Comfort House – Pastor Ethan proposed pursuing a grant for the renovation, remodel, and repurposing of the Philadelphia church parsonage to The Comfort House and asked for approval. The grant would be federally funded from the American Rescue Plan Appropriation. The consensus was to submit the Letter of Intent for a grant proposal of \$150,000 for the remodel, furnishing, and utilities of The Comfort House, which would be used to provide temporary, emergency shelter to individuals, couples, or families in crisis situations.

Maintenance Report – Jim Winter reported on repairs and maintenance in the Joyful Days facility to meet the Inspection requirements. Fluorescent light bulbs are getting expensive, and the goal is to change out the light fixtures with energy efficient units. Duke Energy does provide incentives for such projects. Pastor Ethan announced he would like to have a church workday in March.

HVAC Updates – Tim Waymire reported that three outdoor HVAC units need to be replaced, and some of the furnaces will need to be replaced, at \$25,000 estimated cost. Tim Waymire will provide quotes at the next meeting.

Inventory Report – The Leadership Team discussed how best to complete the Business Tangible Personal Property Return, Form 104 and Form 103 for the Mt. Comfort Campus. Sandy Abel and Sandi Hudson will work on this project. Philly has completed forms on file.

Facility Usage – The Mt. Comfort Campus has received a request for a Boy Scouts of America Lock-In. The consensus was that overnight Lock-Ins will not be approved, due to COVID concerns and liability issues.

Ministry Check-In

Worship – Jeff Janiszewski thought it was great that Leadership Team attended both services on January 30. He would like to schedule interviews with team members and conduct short video interviews. Pastor Ethan expressed his appreciation to the Leadership Team.

For the Good of the Church

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. with prayer. The next meeting is set for March 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Comfort Campus.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Hudson, Recorder